

17. (original) The method according to claim 16 wherein said means to enhance excretion of shikimic acid is selected from; genetic engineering of the genes encoding for shikimatekinase, EPSP synthetase and Chorismate synthase; and adding inorganic phosphate at a limiting rate to the medium.

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed September 23, 2003, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the above amendment and consider the following remarks. In order to expedite the issuance of this case, claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-11. The Applicant also appreciates the Examiner's reconsideration and allowance of claims 13-17.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-11 and claims 13-17 are now in condition for issuance, and such action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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